

Ward 4/7 NPA Meeting
Wednesday November 20, 2019
130 Gosse Court, Miller Center

Draft Minutes

Steering Committee member present:

Jeff Clark, Linda Deliduka, Jenna O'Donnell, Eric Monsen, David Driscoll, Matt Hurlburt

Meeting Start Time: 7:00pm

Ground Rules, Introductions and Announcements

NPA looking for more Steering Committee members. There will be no December Wards 4 and 7 NPA meeting.

Community Dinner takes place monthly before NPA meetings at 5:30pm and are free

New North End Book club meets monthly at Simple Roots. Next meeting is Nov. 21st.

Elected Officials (School, City, State)

Ali Dieng, City Councilor-The Council is working on Ballots and Charter Committee is busy. City Place design has changed and scale is down to 10 stories. A new roundabout on Shelburne Road will be put in and will be paid by State. The City is working with Burlington Housing Authority to improve Franklin Square housing conditions.

Carol Ode, Legislator-Serving on UVM Board of Trustees. Last meeting visited Innovation Hall and Physics class. A lot of students were dropping out of Chemistry 1 and one professor aligned more hands on learning. This increased success for students to go on to Chemistry 2.

Bob Hooper, Legislator-Been meeting on F-35 concerns with Airport and National Guard to understand what's going on and what can be done. Met with Living Well and their program in aging. Looking at One Care and seeing how this program will help save the State money.

Gene O'Sullivan, Legislator-There is a real need for Silver House and Recovery of Homes. There's a zoning challenge and will cost a lot money to get lawyers involved. Have put new language in the legislation to overcome this. The bigger challenge is addiction. Within the housing contract residents sign a pledge to continue therapy and stay sober. Involving landlords is a delicate balance so there are not violations of tenant rights.

Monika Ivancic, School Board. On Nov. 6 got noticed from Superintendent Yaw Obeng that he will be stepping down one year before his contract ended. The School Board wrote a public statement expressing their appreciation of his service and accomplishments. There is a Superintendent Search Committee that was formed. Burlington High school play this year is Urine Town.

Kendra Sowers, School Board. The BHS re-envisioning meeting is on 3rd Thursday of each month. Its budget season and meeting with principals and public about thoughts. There is a link online for feedback. There is also a new video that highlights BSD schools, students, teachers, and programming. French and English Immersion programming meeting will be on Dec. 3rd 6pm at Hunt Middle School. All of this information can be found on <https://www.bsdvt.org/>

Martine Gulick, School Board. Going into budget season was hoping to negotiate a multi-year teacher contract but NEA is currently in negation with State about health insurance so the board is not able to negotiate at this time.

Coalition seeking re-design of Champlain Parkway - Tony Redington/Steve Goodkind

The Southern connector project has been around for a long time. Not against the project but the project has problems in environmental justice which impact low income neighborhoods. Have filed law suit and was heard by courts to review the environmental justice concerns of the project. What found was that VTrans filed in Oct. 11th 2019 in federal register to stop the project. This opens up an opportunity for the City to redesign a better project that won't do harm. What needs to be done is developing streets that serves the neighborhoods. In addition to the project having environmental justice issues don't have design that has bikers and pedestrian use and safety.

Water Resource Rate, Fee Study - Megan Moir

Believe access to clean water is a human right. To provide this need to take care of our system and funded by public billing but want to keep it affordable. There are three utility divisions under Water Resources; Drinking, Waste, and Storm water. With the capital bond was able to update water mains, disinfection system, and computerize main control system. Even if there are 3 utility water divisions all of the waters are connected. Currently have a big budget and also an anticipated budget that will require the need to increase more revenue sources. Did a rate study to change rate structure but also will keep water affordable. Most likely the higher rates will affect commercial business. Right now everybody pays \$4.44 for 100CCF but looking to change this. Will look into affordability programs. Currently doing community engagement and will be required to come back to City Council to present on what rate structure want to go with. [See attached presentation.](#)

Meeting End: 9:00pm

Minutes by Phet Keomanyvanh-CEDO